

# Bulletin

MARCH 23, 1949

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## Gala Musicale, March 30 At Sisterhood Luncheon

**Josh White, MacWatters, Istomin  
To Star On Program at Biltmore**

Sisterhood's stellar program for Luncheon, 1949 has again topped all expectations, Mrs. Vicki Wimpfheimer, chairman of this year's event has announced. Those who attend proceedings at the Biltmore on March 30th will be treated to a wonderful variety of talent. Josh White, famed for his moving renditions of blues, ballads and spirituals joins two equally well-known and outstanding artists on that occasion. Virginia MacWatters, known to everyone for her delightful portrayal of the lead in *Rosalinda*, comes to Sisterhood Luncheon from more recent triumphs in roles with the New York Opera Company, while Eugene Istomin, considered a major pianist among younger artists, will add his keyboard virtuosity to the enjoyment of that afternoon.

No one who has heard Josh White in his many New York night club appearances can forget the silky, delicate sing-

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## Dr. Sachar, President Brandeis University, Guest Speaker Friday Evening, Mar. 25th

On Friday evening, March 25th the Congregation will be privileged to hear as its guest speaker Dr. Abram Leon Sachar, first President of Brandeis University. He has chosen as his topic "The New University—Brandeis."



DR. ABRAM L. SACHAR

This university represents a new venture in that it is the first non-sectarian institution of higher learning to be established with Jewish funds in the United States.

### Helped to Found Hillel Movement

Dr. Sachar was born in New York City in 1899. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Washington University, and his Doctor of Philosophy from Cambridge.

He was one of the pioneers of Hillel Foundation movement which began at the University of Illinois, and has grown to 183 campuses. These *B'nai B'rith* units serve the religious, cultural, social and interfaith needs of Jewish students. From 1928 to 1933 he was Director of *B'nai Brith* Hillel Foundation at the University of Illinois and, from 1933 to last year, was National Director of Hillel Foundations.

In 1943 Dr. Sachar received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Illinois Wesleyan University in tribute to the impact he made on Christian students who attended University of Illinois and had been influenced by Hillel courses there. In 1945 he got an honorary Doctor of Hebrew Letters degree from Hebrew Union College.

### Well-Known Author

In 1929 Dr. Sachar published a well-known one-volume "*A History of the Jews*" (now in 13th printing); in 1939, "*Sufferance is the Badge*," a history of contemporary Jewish life. He also has contributed to *New Republic*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Books of the New York Herald Tribune*, *Menorah Journal*, *Current History*, *Journal of Modern History*, and other organs of opinion.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*Sabbath Eve* ..... Friday, March 25th, 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Abram Sachar will speak on

**"The New University—Brandeis"**

*Sabbath Morning* ..... Saturday, March 26th, 10:00 a.m.

Rabbi Morris Kertzer will preach

*Sabbath Eve* ..... Friday, April 1st, 8:30 p.m.

Rabbi Milton Steinberg will preach on

**"The Dietary Laws—What Shall Be Done With Them?"**

*Sabbath Morning* ..... Saturday, April 2nd, 10:00 a.m.

Rabbi Milton Steinberg will preach

Musical portion of Services under the direction of Cantor Putterman,  
assisted by choir. Mr. Isidor Geller at the organ.

Junior Congregation Service at 10:30 a.m.

*Daily Evening Worship* ..... 5:45 p.m.

## Plan to Attend Sisterhood Luncheon, March 30th



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VOL. 3

No. 10

## From The Desk of Rabbi Kertzer

**W**ILL my son and daughter ever walk into a Synagogue when they are my age? I am certain that many of us have asked this searching question in moments of speculation about the kind of Jews our children are likely to be. In recent weeks a few of us who are concerned with the progress of our Junior Congregation have been vitally concerned about the prospects for filling our pews in the next decades. Despite our present "prosperity" in activities and general participation the Junior Congregation still attracts only a *ychidei sgulah*, a valiant few who in regularity of attendance and love for the Services are inspiring to behold. One does not have to be an Isaiah to prognosticate that empty pews in the Junior Congregation are a sure augur of empty pews in years to come. I have my doubts if the youngsters who have never attended Junior Congregation will ever attend High Holyday services.

As I was musing about the problem a letter reached me, signed by Robert Rifkind, the twelve year old son of the Simon Rifkinds, who is an officer of the Junior Congregation. I quote it verbatim:

"My dear Rabbi Kertzer:

I know that the problem of attendance at Junior Congregation has recently been brought to your attention by Mr. Hahn. I wish now to report that despite minor efforts on the part of various members of our diminishing congregation, nothing

## Bon Voyage !

Mr. D. Leonard Cohen, Chairman of the Publications and Publicity Committee, wishes to take this opportunity to announce that Miss Jo Levy, Editor of the BULLETIN, is leaving to spend three months in Israel. She will be accompanied by Miss Blanche Kolsby, a member of BULLETIN Staff. In Miss Levy's absence, Mr. Dudley L. Greenstein, former Editor of the BULLETIN, will resume this position for the remainder of the year.

The BULLETIN Staff joins Mr. Cohen in wishing Jo and Blanche best wishes and Bon Voyage. *L'Hitraot*.

has been accomplished and, if anything, we are losing ground in respect to attendance.

The remaining members have now organized into two committees. The first, a membership and publicity committee and the second, a religious and program committee to revise our prayer book and in other ways improve our service. However, we feel that it is impossible for us to succeed without the express aid of you and Mr. Leichtling.

Furthermore, it is felt that it is neither in our capacity nor our duty to undertake the enlarging of our congregation. However, we would be more than glad to aid in facilitating the achievement of this objective by improving our service or by any other method.

In regard to improving the service itself we have taken several steps all of which need your approval. In the first place, occasionally substituting movies and phonograph in place of a sermon. As far as movies are concerned, a committee is at present exploring the possibility. As to the case of records, I wrote the "Eternal Light" to see if we might rent recordings of old broadcasts. They replied that we might purchase records at a cost of \$13.50 a set. This seems rather high but worth considering. Also, Mr. Hahn has in some way acquired some musical records which we shall play next Saturday. We feel it would be possible to improve our service even further if you, Rabbi Steinberg, Cantor Putterman and the choir would come down to us occasionally.

## Harmony

The darkness conquered the light,  
The clouds gather over the sun,  
The children return from their play  
The day is once again done.

I sit lonely at my window  
Watching the sun sink from sight,  
And the moon rise over the roof tops  
Casting a silvery light.

They will always remain united  
With no reason for either to fight,  
Each has his own time to shine  
The sun in the day, and the moon in the night.

If nations would learn to be friendly  
And nature's example obey,  
There would be no reason to quarrel  
For each has great strength in his way.

—ALICE STEINBERG  
10 Years Old

## Religious School Celebrates Purim

The Religious School held its annual Purim celebration on Sunday morning, March 13th. The Vestry was gaily decorated with booths and the latest Purim fashions. A feature attraction of the morning was a costume parade at which time, after much deliberation, prizes were awarded to Susan Geller, Meryl Blau and Alice Heyman for the most original costumes; to Ellen Wimpfheimer for the best boy's costume; to Leone Strauss, Ruth Kertzer and Sue Gordon for the best girls' costumes. The prettiest Queen Esther were judged to be Joan Diamond and Suzanne Radin. The prize for the costume requiring the most work was given to Susan Wimpfheimer and Michael Conde.

Over one hundred dollars was made at this affair which the Religious School has donated to United Jewish Appeal. Everyone had such a fine time that Purim next year seemed to be too far away.

Trusting that you will take some immediate action to help us—

Sincerely yours,  
ROBERT RIFKIND."

Any commentary on my part would be gilding the Lily.

# Don't Forget-Sisterhood Luncheon Highlights



## Sisterhood Luncheon

(Continued from Page 1)

ing he combines with a distinctive and superlative use of the guitar. Whether in Broadway plays—where he appeared with Paul Robeson, on records, or at Cafe Society, Josh White has displayed an intimate knowledge of Negro folk song. He is today one of the sure possessors of that natural, yet intelligently cultivated instinct of the folk singer.

Luncheon-goers can look to additional delight in the program when Virginia MacWatters steps forward to enchant with her lovely colorature soprano voice and her special ability for piquant characterization. The audience at the Biltmore will love her vivacious charm and



MRS. VICKI WIMPFHEIMER

her vocal gift, and will join the admirers who thrilled to her performance in "Tales of Hoffman," "The Barber of Seville" and other operas at the City Center. Sisterhood welcomes this talented person who aroused critical acclaim for her parts in "Rosalinda" and "Mr. Strauss Goes to Boston".

On the instrumental side of this year's Musicale will be the keyboard dexterity of Eugene Istomin. When Mr. Istomin won the Levintritt award in 1943, he was applauded as a youthful virtuoso. His more recent piano concerts have added immeasurably to the long list of praises accorded him. With Isaac Stern at the Lewisohn Stadium, at Town Hall, and on records with the Busch Chamber

players, this young "genius" has advanced himself to leadership among the younger group of pianists, and has also, because of the grand manner and deep penetrations of his style, made a place for himself among the top-ranking performers in his field.

No luncheon program has aroused more eager anticipation. No musicale has crowded into it more colorful and abundant artistic talent. It is expected that with the added incentive provided by such entertainment—as obtained by Mrs. Edward Peiper, program chairman,—Sisterhood women and their friends will attend en masse at the Biltmore. This will compliment the artists' endeavors, repay the tireless efforts of all luncheon chairmen, but more important, richly reward all those who support this year's Luncheon.

## Junior League Plans Old Fashioned Movie Eve

The next open meeting of the Junior League will take place Sunday evening, March 27th, 1949, in the Vestry of the Synagogue, when the League presents another evening of Old Time Movies. A one-hour show of movics starring Charlie Chaplin, Laurel & Hardy, and a Community Sing will be the feature of the evening's entertainment. Miss Harriet Norfolk and Mr. Leonard Arnov are chairmen of the affair. Following the movies there will be refreshments and dancing. Admission is \$1.25 per person and the evening's activities will start at 8:30 p.m. All the young people in the Synagogue are invited to attend.

The next closed business meeting of the League will be held on Tuesday, April 5th at 8:15 p.m. in the Vestry. At that meeting final plans for the Annual Cocktail Dance to be held at the Hotel Pierre on Sunday, April 10th will be presented.

Young Marrieds "B" will meet at the home of the Albert Stewarts, 15 West 81st Street, Tuesday, March 29th, at 8:30 p.m. The Speaker will be Mr. Chaim Weiner on "Daily Life in Israel."

## SEMINARY DRIVE STARTED AT BRUNCH

The Park Avenue Synagogue Seminary Committee, under the leadership of Mr. Isaac Liberman as chairman and Mr. Harold R. Starkman as co-chairman, conducted a very fine Brunch at the Bolivar Hotel on Sunday, March 13th. This event marked the much closer rapprochement between our Congregation and the Seminary.

The assembled guests heard an inspiring presentation by Rabbi Steinberg of Seminary's program and activities and the role played by this great Jewish institution in training spiritual and lay leaders, in order that they may be prepared to lead the Jewish community, coping with the complex and multiform problems faced by all of us.

## United Synagogue Also Aided by Drive

Judge Edgar J. Nathan, Jr. extended greetings from the Board of Directors of the Seminary and stressed the importance of a constantly closer relationship between all synagogues of the United Synagogue of America and the Seminary.

The famous character actor of stage and screen, Mr. Sam Levene, currently appearing in Moss Hart's "Light Up the Sky", stressed the role of the Eternal Light radio program sponsored by the Seminary, and drove home the point that the Eternal Light for thousands of isolated Jewish families scattered in many small communities throughout the country, is their only link to living Jewish tradition.

## Support by Congregants Urged

Mr. Liberman in making his appeal to those present for funds in support of the program delineated by the various speakers, urged that each and every member of the Park Avenue Synagogue should join in insuring the success of this vital campaign and that each of the members would be solicited toward this end. Moneys raised so far total \$11,300, which is far short of the goal set. Members of the Synagogue who could not be present at the Brunch should send their contributions, made payable to the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, to the Synagogue's office.

# by Prominent Entertainers at the Biltmore



Mr. Benjamin Sack, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, announces the appointment of the following Committees for the 1949-1950 Synagogue year.

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 Mr. Louis Schwefel  
 Mr. Archie Thurman  
 Mr. Moe Turman

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Mr. Benjamin Sack, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, announces the appointment of the Chairmen of the following Committees for the year 1949-1950. (The names of the members of these committees will appear in a subsequent issue of the BULLETIN.)

#### COMMITTEE

Finance Committee  
 Membership Committee  
 House Committee  
 Committee on Adult Education  
 Publicity Committee  
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 Committee on Art Objects and Decorations  
 Nominating Committee

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 Mr. D. Leonard Cohen  
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#### Engagement

Our congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Felix Jacobi on the engagement of their son, Carl.

#### Marriages

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Milton N. Grass on the marriage of their daughter, Iris to Mr. Robert Markewich on February 20th; to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Dubrowin on the marriage of their son, Sigmund to Miss Lucille Mahler on February 20th; and to Mrs. Celia Broder on the marriage of her son, Marvin K. to Miss Gloria Waldman.

#### Anniversaries

Sincere good wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Orent who celebrated their fifth anniversary on March 19th; to Mr. and Mrs. Saul Godwin who marked twenty years of wedded bliss on March 14th.

#### Bar Mitzvah

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Harry Galton on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Harry, which took place on March 5th; and to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lantin on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Brian, which took place on March 12th; and to Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Holzman on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Donald, which took place on March 19th. Congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Ebersman on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Judd, which will take place on March 26th, and to Professor and Mrs. Albert Salomon on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Frank, which will take place on April 2nd.

#### Anniversaries

Our very best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Moe Turman who will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on April 1st.

#### Birth

Our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Bangser on the birth of their son and congratulations to the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mittenthal.

#### Mark Your Calendar

April 19—Sisterhood meeting—1:30—  
 Vestry—Panel discussion "What Does the Average Woman Do With Her Leisure Time?"  
 April 24—Parents' Association—8:30—  
 Vestry—Annual Social—Game Night.  
 April 26—Sisterhood Annual Party for the Blind.

**Plan to Attend Sisterhood Luncheon, March 30th**